EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

STUDENT INFORMATION

Faculty: Arts and Social Sciences
Major/Minor: Psychology
Host university: De La Salle University
Host Country: Philippines
Dates of your exchange: (month/year) September/2017 to (month/year) April/2018

TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost? $1,300
Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? $100
Do you have a recommended routing or airline? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, please describe: Philippine Airlines because it's a direct flight

VISAS

What is your citizenship? (voluntary; may impact following information) Canadian/Filipino
Did you need a student visa/permit? ☐ No ☐ Yes: What was the cost? ______________
If yes, what documentation was needed?
Did you need a visitor visa/permit? ☐ No ☐ Yes: What was the cost? ______________
If yes, what documentation was needed?
Where was your immigration documentation processed?
How long did it take to procure your visa/permit?
Were any other documents required (residence permit, etc)? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, please comment: ____________________________________________________________

AIRPORT RECEPTION

Were you met at the airport by representatives of the host university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Is there easy transportation between the airport and university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please comment: The host university provides transportation between the airport and university upon request. There are also many taxis on stand by at the airport and since the university is not that far from the airport, the fare is very inexpensive.

What is the closest airport to the host university? Ninoy Aquino International Airport

ORIENTATION

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival at the host university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Was there a cost for the orientation session? ☐ No ☐ Yes, how much? ______________
If yes, do you recommend that future students participate? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please comment: It was a very long and disorganized orientation to be honest. However, they were able to go over the basics and explain what to expect when starting your classes and such. They also cover what is expected of you as an exchange student. Seeing that their education system is a bit different as SFU’s, I found it very helpful and insightful.
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**

Is there a language program available either before or during the term? □ No □ Yes

If yes, how long is it? ________________________

Is there an additional cost for language training? □ No □ Yes: How much? ________________

Please comment:

**ACCOMMODATION & LIVING**

Is on-campus or university dormitory accommodation available? □ No □ Yes

If yes, are you living in a university dormitory? □ No □ Yes

If yes, can you make a recommendation for a specific dormitory? □ No □ Yes

If yes, please describe: University Pad Residences - P. Ocampo Branch

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation? about $250

Is there a meal plan? □ No □ Yes: How much is it? ________________

If no, do you have access to adequate cooking facilities? □ No □ Yes

How far is your dormitory from the main campus? a 5-10 minute walk (shuttle available)

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

you're only allowed one device and it was a bit annoying cause you'd have to always log out before you leave or else the system will log you out (no automatic connection). You also have your own phone in the room.

Did you have to make a deposit for your accommodation prior to arrival? □ No □ Yes

If yes, how did you arrange this? I have family in the Philippines so they took care of it.

Is off-campus housing easily available? □ No □ Yes

Please comment on off-campus housing:

There are a lot of options super close to the campus.

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals? $500

Any other comments on accommodation:
FINANCIAL DETAILS
Have you opened a bank account in your host country?  □ No  □ Yes: What are the challenges/benefits to opening a local bank account?

Benefit is that you're not carrying all your cash around in your bag. The location of the university is not the safest, so it's important that you don't have many valuables with you.

How would you recommend students bring money (Canadian/American cash, travelers’ cheques, local currency?)

I'd probably recommend bringing American Cash, but Canadian is okay as well. You would only need about 1000 php (about 25 dollars) in order get to where you're going from the airport and then you can exchange when you get settled.

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments?  □ Cash  □ Debit  □ Credit card

Please comment: Most places in the mall take credit or debit. However, the corner stores and smaller restaurants and food stands only take cash. Even if they take cards, cash is still the preferred method of payment.

ACADEMIC DETAILS
Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted?  □ No  □ Yes

Please describe the course registration procedure:

The international services staff will help you enroll for your courses during orientation. The process is slow because enrollment for international students isn't online. Therefore, you have to manually fill out enrollment papers in which the staff will get it signed and approved by the appropriate people before you are officially enrolled. With that being said, classes are small and students have already enrolled during the previous semester, so it's hard to get the classes you want (they were very late in enrolling us).

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university?  Psychology

What is the language of instruction in your courses?  English

If not English, are English-taught courses available? 

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university.

It is just like high school again. The classes are classes, not lectures. They consisted of a maximum of 45 students. You'll get to know your profs well because of the class sizes. There are also midterms and finals, including a lot of group projects/work and presentations.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?

I was able to become more confident and comfortable with public speaking.

Submission Instructions:  1. Please complete and return this form by E-mail to studyabroad@sfu.ca as a PDF.
   2. Subject line of email: Questionnaire - [Host Country, Host University]
   3. Please include your full name and student number in the body of your E-mail.